

Minutes of February 14, 2011

The meeting was opened at 6:30 PM; all members were present.

The meeting minutes of January 31th were accepted as prepared.

The Board of Assessors appeared before the Board to review and discuss the recent discovery of an error in the assessment of one piece of property. It was noted that due to the under assessment a loss of about \$9,000.00 a year in tax revenue had occurred for almost eight years. The Board questioned as to how could this happen and why did it take so long to be discovered? Assessor Chair Marsha Pshenishny advised that when the appraiser was doing follow up onsite appraisal on the property he had entered that the building was at 100% complete even though it should have been assessed as only 15% complete. Since the property was entered as complete the following year when a report was run for properties that needed a follow up inspections this property did not appear on the list. She noted that this appraiser no longer works with our appraising firm. She advised that she has already sent an adjusted bill to reflect the additional taxes for this year. The Board questioned as to whether or not Mr. Kapinos' firm has insurance to cover this? Mrs. Pshenishny added that she has reviewed all of the property files and they are in order and that she will contact Kapinos' office to see if he has insurance to cover for this. The Board would like Town Counsel to be contacted about this issue since the Town is out of a possible additional amount of up to \$35,000.00.

A Pole Hearing was opened at 6:45 PM for National Grid/Verizon for new pole installation/removal on Hillington Road. The project includes removing one (1) pole and installing two (2) new poles. One abutter was concerned about how long it would take Verizon to complete the project. The Engineer from National Grid stated that he has no control over scheduling but would see what he could do to make the process move along. Being that there were no further questions or concerns a motion was made, seconded and so voted (3-0) to approve the removal one pole and installation of 2 poles for National Grid/Verizon. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to close the hearing.

The Board reviewed the warrant for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for March 2nd; there was some discussion on article #3 placing snow on public ways with the Acting Police Chief Mr. Scott Farrell and Highway Superintendent Mr. Peter Marks before signing the warrant.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the contract with Southern Berkshire Regional Hazardous Waste Collection. It was noted that the FY12 Budge will be \$1,000.00.

Charles Patron asked the Board as to when the Town web site would be up and running. It was advised that once the paper works goes through for the domain name/address the website should be up and running by March 15th.

It was noted that the Board would have a work meeting at the Highway Garage for a ninety day review of an employee.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Skorput
Administrative Assistant